

World Mythology Course Syllabus

Teacher: Mr. Jared Pfannenstiel
Room: 108
Class Times: Block 3 (10:50-12:40)
Office Hours: Block 2 (8:55-10:10)
Email: jpfannenstiel@winthropschools.org
Prerequisite: None

1. Description of the Course:

- a. This semester-long elective provides an overview of world mythology by geographic region and its relationship to civilizations, cultures, and religions. Additionally, the course covers the purposes and types of myths; the development of myths and mythological characters; the common elements of mythological structures; the predominant characteristics of heroes in myth; the conflicts heroes encounter, and how ancient myths relate to modern stories. The course will include Hollywood film comparisons to myths we have studied. For example, while studying Norse mythology, we may watch Thor to examine the similarities and differences between the characters Thor, Odin, and Loki in the film vs. the myths.

2. Text and Materials:

- a. Textbook: World Mythology: The Illustrated Guide by Roy Willis
- b. Materials:
 - i. Students must bring a pencil/pen, a notebook, and their personal computer/iPad to class daily.

3. State Standards:

1. Students demonstrate an understanding of the forces of continuity and change to analyze the evolution of historical eras, the persistence of enduring themes, and the significance of turning points in history and current issues (a,b,c,d)
 2. Analyze structures of government and duties and the rights of citizens (a,c)
 3. Students identify their own roles and responsibilities in our democratic processes (c)
 4. Explain geographic influences on culture and cultural change (a,b,c,d)
 5. Compare and contrast how various peoples adapt to/change their environment to meet their needs (a,b,c,d,e)
- Writing 1.** Produce clear and coherent writing for a range of tasks, purposes and audiences (a,b)

Language 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, vocabulary and usage when writing or speaking (d)

4. Course Outline:

- a. Unit One- Middle Eastern Mythology
- b. Unit Two- European Mythology
- c. Unit Three- Asian Mythology
- d. Unit Four- African Mythology
- e. Unit Five- American Mythology

5. Classroom Rules and Policies:

- a. First and foremost, this classroom is a place of learning, belonging, and respect. Both students and teachers will respect each other and themselves. If another student or teacher is talking, raise your hand. Swearing and yelling is unacceptable. Lastly, the period will end when the bell rings. Students are not allowed to line up at the door. Students are not only graded on assignments, but also on behavior in class.
- b. A **strict** no phone policy will be enacted as soon as the bell rings and ends when the period ends. Any student caught with a phone will get one warning. If the behavior continues, the phone will be taken away and parents will be notified. If a student is expecting an important call or text, they must inform the teacher at the beginning of the class.
- c. Be prepared to learn as soon as you enter the classroom. Bring your notebook, writing utensils, homework, a positive outlook, and anything else needed to learn.
- d. Only one student at a time for bathroom use. Students who want to use the bathroom must sign out and sign in on a designated sheet. They are also required to take a bathroom pass and bring it back to the classroom.

6. Evaluations and Grading Policies:

- a. The breakdown of PowerSchool grades will be updated every Tuesday:
 - i. Daily grades: 10 points
 - ii. Projects: 25 points
 - iii. Tests: 50 points
 - iv. Final: 100 points
- b. **Plagiarism** is the act of copying the work of another and attempting to pass it off as your own. This can include copy/paste from the internet or using AI to answer questions. In the first instance of plagiarism, the student shall receive a grade of

zero on the assignment. The teacher of record shall inform the parent/guardian of the student as well as the building principal. In the second instance of plagiarism, the student will receive a failing grade for the course, and a referral to the Director of Student Services to adjust their class schedule.

- c. **Retakes** are allowed on any written assignment. Students must correct their mistakes and turn in the corrected work the day after it was returned to them.
7. **Deadlines for Work:** All assignments will be posted in GoogleClassroom and have a specific deadline listed. Semester-long projects will have checkpoint dates listed leading up to final submission. If students do not submit work on time (for any reason), a grade of zero will be posted by the teacher until the work is submitted. Students will then have a one-week grace period to submit late work. The building Principal reserves the right to extend this grace period if circumstances warrant an extension. Grades will be updated by the end of the day each Friday while school is in session.
8. **Notification of Failure:** The teacher of record shall immediately notify the parents/guardians of any student whose cumulative grade falls below a 70. The teacher shall also notify the Director of Student Services of any student habitually failing to submit work on time.